

## Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 SCS-03 SCA-01 AID-20 IGA-02

OMB-01 HEW-08 EB-11 DRC-01 /170 W

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R 241045Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5573

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, SOCI, AF, US

SUBJ: AFGHANISTAN: MORE INITIATIVES VIS-A-VIS NOOR AND MAP

REF: KABUL 5125

1. COLONEL NORRISH OF INTERNATIONAL AFGHAN MISSION (IAM) AND DR. FRIESEN (NOOR) CALLED UPON CHARGE AND ADCM OCTOBER 16 IN ORDER BRIEF EMBASSY ON RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AFFECTING NOOR AND MAP.

2. NOOR: DR. FRIESEN STATED THAT MINISTER OF HEALTH HAD VISITED NOOR SOME TWO WEEKS PREVIOUSLY. WHILE HE HAD MADE SOME DEROGATORY COMMENTS ABOUT SIZE AND SUMPTUOUSNESS OF BUILDINGS, HE HAD ALSO INDICATED AWARENESS AND SOME APPRECIATION NOOR'S PROGRAM. MORE RECENTLY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO MINHEALTH, MOKAMMEL SAFI, HAD VISITED NOOR WITH AFGHAN DOCTOR HATAGI WHOM HE INTRODUCED AS NEW ADMINISTRATOR NOOR. SAFI HAD BEHAVED RATHER RUDELY ACCORDING FRIESEN AND HIS COMMENTS ABOUT NOOR HAD AROUSED UNEASINESS AMONG AFGHAN STAFF. FRIESEN STATED HE HAD ACKNOWLEDGED RIGHT OF GOA TO NAME NEW ADMINISTRATOR BUT HAD INSISTED THAT SAFI COULD NOT SPEAK TO ASSEMBLED NOOR PERSONNEL UNTIL COLONEL NORRISH HAD ARRIVED. SAFI HAD RELUCTANTLY AGREED. FRIESEN INDICATED TO US EVERY INTENTION COOPERATE FULLY WITH MINHEALTH DIRECTIVES AND WITH

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NEW ADMINISTRATOR. (BOTH VISITS HAD BEEN WITHOUT PRIOR OFFICIAL

NOTICE, BUT CONTACT IN MINISTRY HAD TELEPHONED NOOR EACH OCCASION  
STATING VISITOR WAS ENROUTE.)

3. MAP: COLONEL NORRISH STATED THAT MAP HAD RECEIVED NOTICE FROM MINHEALTH THAT MAP REPRESENTATIVES IN THE OUTLYING DISTRICTS SHOULD BE RECALLED TO NYACK HOSPITAL FOR WINTER. HE NOTED THIS FAILED TO GIVE ASSURANCE MAP PERSONNEL COULD RETURN TO FIELD IN SPRING, BUT MAP INTENDED GO ALONG WITH DIRECTIVE. HE STATED THAT MAP COULD NOT CONTINUE ITS OVERALL PROGRAM IF PERSONNEL WERE TO BE KEPT AT NYACK PERMANENTLY; BUT HE WOULD NOT SPECULATE ON CY 74 FUTURE.

4. BOTH VISITORS INDICATED THEY SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH MINHEALTH OR SAFI IN NEAR FUTURE FOR FURTHER CLARIFICATION MINHEALTH INTENTIONS AND PROMISED INFORM EMBASSY WHEN DISCUSSION OCCURRED. ON OCTOBER 24 COLONEL NORRISH INFORMED ADCM MEETING HAD BEEN HELD, BUT IT WAS LARGEY OVERTAKEN BY MEETING DONOR REPS WITH MINHEALTH OCTOBER 21 IN WHICH MINHEALTH LAID DOWN BROAD OUTLINES HIS DESIRES REGARDING DONOR ACTIVITIES. SPECIFICALLY, MINHEALTH CALLED FOR PROGRAMS WHICH TRAIN AFGHANS TO TAKE OVER OPERATION RATHER THAN MERELY DOING ALL THE WORK. NORRISH NOTED MINISTER HAD SINGLED OUR NOOR FOR PRAISE IN THAT NOOR WAS ALREADY CONCENTRATING ON TRAINING AFGHANS. NORRISH ALSO INDICATED COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH MINISTER'S OBJECTIVE FOR TRAINING AFGHANS, BUT ADMITTED THIS POSED PROBLEM FOR MAP AND INDIANA/LOMA LINDA TEAM AT JALALABAD.

5. NORRISH UPDATED NOOR/MAP SITUATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

- A. NOOR: FIRST WEEK UNDER DR. HATAGI HAD GONE VERY WELL; DR. HATAGI IS GOOD MAN, WELL-TRAINED.
- B. MAP: THREE CLINICS ARE IN PROCESS BEING CLOSED DOWN AND PERSONNEL WITHDRAWN TO NYACK HOSPITAL. MINISTRY TRYING FIND MAN AS GOOD AS DR. HATAGI TO NAME MAP ADMINISTRATOR.

6. NORRISH CONCLUDED HE EXPECTING FURTHER CONVERSATION AFTER ID HOLIDAYS WITH SAFI, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD MAP.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 OCT 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** KABUL 5125  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 13 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <13-Dec-2001 by thigpegh>; APPROVED <02-Jan-2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AFGHANISTAN: MORE INITIATIVES VIS-A-VIS NOOR AND MAP  
**TAGS:** CASC, SOCI, AF, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005